

Schwab, Kay

From: Kaspar, Paul
Sent: Monday, June 17, 2013 11:37 AM
To: Garcia, David
Cc: Hosch, Claudia; Schwab, Kay
Subject: FW: Data? Louisiana chemical plant blast

David,

Below is NPDES information readily retrievable on the Williams - Geismar facility.

Paul Kaspar, Chief
Permits Oversight Section (6WQ-PO)
NPDES Permits & TMDLs Branch
Water Quality Protection Division
US. EPA - Region 6
1445 Ross Avenue
Dallas, TX 75202
Office: 214.665.7459
Email: kaspar.paul@epa.gov

-----Original Message-----

From: Schwab, Kay
Sent: Monday, June 17, 2013 10:06 AM
To: Kaspar, Paul
Subject: RE: Data? Louisiana chemical plant blast

Paul,

Per your request here is some quick info on the Louisiana Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (LPDES) wastewater discharge permit for Williams Olefins LLC, Geismar Ethylene Plant (LA0069612, LDEQ's AI No. 5565).

According to the most recent fact sheet prepared by LDEQ, this facility is regulated by 40 CFR 414, Subparts F & I, Organics Chemicals, Plastics, and Synthetic Fibers (OCPSF) (process wastewater flow - 0.44928 MGD, "major" facility):
<http://www.ecfr.gov/cgi-bin/text-idx?c=ecfr&SID=d80d7dd0ee509cd34770546a27692102&rqn=div6&view=text&node=40:30.0.1.1.14.6&idno=40>

Per the fact sheet this facility "is an ethylene production facility that manufactures 1.3 billion pounds per year of ethylene. Other hydrocarbon co-products are polypropylene, 1,3-butadiene, and debutanized aromatic concentrate (DAC). Light hydrocarbon feedstock (primarily ethane) is fed to a bank of cracking furnaces operated in parallel. The thermal reaction products are then cooled, refined, and fractionated into individual products in a continuous process train."

Link to 04/19/13 letter re: facility expansion:

<http://edms.deq.louisiana.gov/app/doc/view.aspx?doc=8812215&ob=yes&child=yes>

Link to current permit (effective 6/1/09, expires 5/31/2014):

<http://edms.deq.louisiana.gov/app/doc/view.aspx?doc=6383681&ob=yes&child=yes>

Link to 02/11/09 Draft permit package with Fact Sheet (Starts on p. 59 of 113. Contains facility info on the rationale for permit issuance).

<http://edms.deq.louisiana.gov/app/doc/view.aspx?doc=6288272&ob=yes&child=yes>

Link to 02/10/09 letter from Fish & Wildlife Service:

<http://edms.deq.louisiana.gov/app/doc/view.aspx?doc=6296745&ob=yes&child=yes>

Link to EPA's 01/30/09 No Objection letter to LDEQ:

<http://edms.deq.louisiana.gov/app/doc/view.aspx?doc=6289141&ob=yes&child=yes>

Link to LPDES permit application submitted by Williams, June 2008:

<http://edms.deq.louisiana.gov/app/doc/view.aspx?doc=3536153&ob=yes&child=yes>

Let me know if additional info is needed.

K

Kay Schwab (6WQ-PO)
Environmental Engineer
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(214) 665-6635

-----Original Message-----

From: Kaspar, Paul
Sent: Monday, June 17, 2013 8:27 AM
To: Schwab, Kay
Subject: FW: Data? Louisiana chemical plant blast

Paul Kaspar, Chief
Permits Oversight Section (6WQ-PO)
NPDES Permits & TMDLs Branch
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-----Original Message-----

From: Honker, William
Sent: Friday, June 14, 2013 2:07 PM
To: Kaspar, Paul; Parrish, Sharon; Hosch, Claudia; Brown, Jamesr; Watson, Jane; Dwyer, Stacey; Hill, Troy
Cc: Garcia, David
Subject: FW: Data? Louisiana chemical plant blast

If we have any input on this, please provide to David by noon Monday.

Bill

William K. Honker, P.E.
Director, Water Quality Protection Division (6WQ) EPA Region 6 Dallas, TX
214-665-3187

-----Original Message-----

From: Coleman, Sam

Sent: Friday, June 14, 2013 1:17 PM

To: Edlund, Carl; Garcia, David; Gray, David; Ponder, Deborah; Taheri, Diane; Harrison, Ben; Hale, Jeannine; Blevins, John; McDonald, James; Phillips, Pam; Crossland, Ronnie; Coleman, Sam; Gilrein, Stephen; Murray, Suzanne; Honker, William; Luthans, William; Stenger, Wren

Subject: FW: Data? Louisiana chemical plant blast

I want to make sure that we fully and accurately respond to this request. Rather than everyone responding individually, please send all responses to Carl/Pam who will coordinate a complete response for us.

-----Original Message-----

From: Holthaus, Randy

Sent: Friday, June 14, 2013 9:30 AM

To: Blevins, John; Gilrein, Stephen; Stenger, Wren

Cc: Coleman, Sam

Subject: Data? Louisiana chemical plant blast

John/Steve and Wren:

Can you send me (or have someone on your staff send to me) any info/data you have on this plant in LA where the explosion was yesterday -- the Williams Olefins chemical plant in Geismar, Louisiana.

1. Which federal or EPA regulations govern this facility?
2. What is the history of known federal violations at this plant?
3. What has been EPA's actions/intervention to enforce or bring this facility into compliance over the years?

Any chance I could get these questions answered by the end of today, or early Monday, even if they are brief answers (a few sentences to a paragraph for each question)? Or if it's easier to send me key weblinks for the information that too would work.

Let me know please. Thanks.

Randy